

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-01 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CU-04 OCE-00 CCO-00 OPR-02 A-01

FBO-06 AID-05 NIC-01 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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O R 101340Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7939

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 11501

USIA FOR INA

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PK

SUB: BOMBING USIS CENTER PESHAWAR - STATUS REPORT

REF: ISLAMABAD 11465

1. CPAO, CEO AND EMBASSY RSO VISITED PESHAWAR CENTER EARLY MORNING DEC 10, FULLY CONFIRMING REPORT SUBMITTED BY TELEPHONE EVENING DEC 9 BY CONSUL EVERTS AND CENTER DIRECTOR RIZZIE.

2. CONTRACT EMPLOYEES HOSPITALIZED HAVE BEEN RELEASED AND SUFFERED MINOR FACIAL INJURIES. DISCUSSED BOMBING WITH ONE OF EMPLOYEES INJURED.

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3. EFFORTS BEING MADE OBTAIN EXACT ESTIMATE OF DAMAGE FROM QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS. ENGINEER AND ASSISTANT ENGINEER CANTONMENT BOARD HAVE SURVEYED DAMAGE AND HAVE STATED THAT "CENTER BUILDING IS STRUCTURALLY SAFE. " BEARING WALLS SHOW NO SIGN OF DAMAGE. WALL STRESSES AND CRACKS HAVE APPEARED IN PARTITION BRICK WALLS BUT THESE CAN EASILY BE FIXED, LARGE PORTION OF LIBRARY AND OFFICE FURNITURE CAN BE SALVAGED. ALL LIBRARY BOOKS HAVE SUFFERED FROM FIRE AND WATER. COMPLETE EVALUATION WILL BE MADE AS SOON AS LIGHTING IS RESTORED AND BOOKS CAN BE EXAMINED.

4. AUDITORIUM AND OFFICE SPACE BEHIND EXHIBIT AREA SLIGHTLY DAMAGED, CAN BE RESTORED EASILY AND INEXPENSIVELY. AIR CONDITION PLANT SEEMS TO HAVE SUFFERED NO DAMAGE BUT FROM SUPERFICIAL EXAMINATION DUCT WORK INSULATION WILL NEED REPLACEMENT.

5. OBVIOUS THAT BOMBING OF CENTER HAS CAUSED SENSATION AND SYMPATHY AMONG POPULATION. RIZZIE AND EVERTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING MESSAGES ALL MORNING AND MANY HAVE STOPPED AT CENTER TO EXPRESS SYMPATHY. KHYBER MAIL EDITOR ASKAR ALI SHAH STATED THAT "THE WHOLE FRONTIER SHOULD NOT SUFFER FROM THE MISGUIDED ACTS OF A FEW DISCONTENTS AND DEMENTED INDIVIDUALS." ONE PERSON UPON ATTEMPTING TO ENTER CENTER WAS STOPPED BY POLICE, PATRON OBJECTED AND BERATED POLICE BY SAYING "WHY HAVEN'T YOU FOUND THE CULPRITS? YOU PEOPLE (MEANING POLICE) DON'T FIND THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN BOMBING." A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN STATED THAT "THE NORTHWEST FRONTIER WILL SUFFER, NOT THE AMERICANS, BY THIS BOMBING" ANOTHER BUSINESSWOMAN REFERRED TO THE RECENT RENOVATION THAT TOOK PLACE AS "LOVE'S LABOR LOST." PRESENTLY NO ONE HERE WILLING TO SAY WHY BOMBING TOOK PLACE.

6. MILITARY ORDNANCE TEAM BEGAN ON-SITE INVESTIGATION THIS MORNING.

7. PHOTOGRAPHS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY USIS PHOTOGRAPHER AND WILL BE SENT WASHINGTON SOONEST.
BYROADE

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